

Public Legals

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Legal Notice: Opportunity to Object Salter Vegetation Management Project Environmental Assessment USDA Forest Service Dolores Ranger District, San Juan National Forest Montezuma and Dolores Counties, CO

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The Dolores Ranger District of the San Juan National Forest has released an Environmental Assessment (EA), Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and Draft Decision Notice (DN) for the Salter Vegetation Management project in Montezuma County and Dolores County, CO. The District Ranger for the Dolores Ranger District is the responsible official for this project. It is the responsible official's intention to select the Alternative 2 (Modified Proposed Action) for this project. The modified proposed action includes single tree selection, commercial thinning, post fledgling area thinning, and brush thinning primarily, as well as additional actions for fuels disposal, including pile burning. Additional actions include the installation of four wildlife guzzlers. The modified proposed action also includes an adaptive management approach to respond to changing environmental conditions. The final EA, FONSI, and draft DN are available on-line at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57671>. These documents are also available for review at the Dolores Ranger District office at 29211 Hwy 184, Dolores, CO 81321. Additional information may be obtained by contacting David Casey, Supervisory Forester, at (970) 882-7296 or by email at david.casey2@usda.gov.

The Salter Vegetation Management project is subject to the objection process pursuant to 36 CFR 218, subpart A and B. Objections will only be accepted from those who have previously submitted specific written comments regarding the proposed project during scoping or other designated opportunities for public comment in accordance with §218.5(a). Issues raised in objections must be based on previously submitted specific written comments regarding the proposed project, unless the issue is based on new information that arose after the opportunities to comment (§218.8(c)).

Objections, including attachments, must be filed (regular mail, fax, email, hand-delivery, express delivery, or messenger service) with the appropriate reviewing officer within 45 days following the publication of this legal notice in the Cortez Journal. The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an objection. Those wishing to object should not rely upon dates or time-frame information provided by any other source. The regula-

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tions prohibit extending the time to file an objection. It is the objector's responsibility to ensure timely filing of a written objection with the reviewing officer.

Objections should be submitted to Objection Reviewing Officer, Forest Supervisor Kara Chadwick, San Juan National Forest, Electronic submissions are preferred and may be submitted at http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=57671.

Electronically submitted objections must be in plain text (.txt), Word (.doc or .docx), Portable Document Format (.pdf), or Rich Text Format (.rtf) file formats.

Objections may also be mailed or hand delivered to: Objection Review Officer: Forest Supervisor Kara Chadwick, San Jun National Forest, USDA Forest Service, Attn: 1570 Objections, 15 Burnett Court, Durango, CO 81301. The fax number is 970-375-2331. Please include in the heading of the fax: Forest Supervisor, Attn: 1570 Objections. Objections delivered by mail must be postmarked no later than the last day of the 45-day objection filing period. At this time, the building is closed, therefore, those who wish to send an objection via hardcopy mail or fax must contact Mark Lambert at 970-799-2331 or mark.b.lambert@usda.gov to ensure their objection is received. Also, due to the building closure, those submitting hand-delivered objections must contact Mark Lambert in advance, to make an appointment.

The objection must be in writing and meet the content requirements at 36 CFR 218.8(d). All objections are available for public inspection during and after the objection process. Names, contact information, and comments will become part of the public record and may be released under the Freedom of Information Act. The U.S. Department of Agriculture is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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